

FL: TPSC2

ROOM H-405, U.S. CAPITOL  
(202) 225-4121

LEE H. HAMILTON, INDIANA, CHAIRMAN

LOUIS STOKES, OHIO  
DAVE MCCURDY, OKLAHOMA  
ANTHONY C. BEILSEN, CALIFORNIA  
ROBERT W. KASTENMEIER, WISCONSIN  
DAN DANIEL, VIRGINIA  
ROBERT A. ROE, NEW JERSEY  
GEORGE E. BROWN, JR., CALIFORNIA  
MATTHEW F. McHUGH, NEW YORK  
BERNARD J. DWYER, NEW JERSEYBOB STUMP, ARIZONA  
ANDY IRELAND, FLORIDA  
HENRY J. HYDE, ILLINOIS  
DICK CHENEY, WYOMING  
BOB LIVINGSTON, LOUISIANA  
BOB MCEWEN, OHIOTHOMAS K. LATIMER, STAFF DIRECTOR  
MICHAEL J. O'NEIL, CHIEF COUNSEL  
STEVEN K. BERRY, ASSOCIATE COUNSEL

## U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

SCA

86-0812

March 6, 1986

Honorable Eldon Rudd  
House of Representatives  
2465 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Eldon:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of February 24, 1986 to Chairman Hamilton forwarding a letter from Mr. W. Donald Stewart, President of Stewart Security Services. I agree with Mr. Stewart and with you that we must ensure that federal privacy and freedom of information statutes are consistent with the needs of national security. This Committee has worked assiduously in recent years toward that end.

In 1984, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence produced the Central Intelligence Agency Information Act (Public Law 98-477) to exempt CIA operational files from the Freedom of Information Act. The CIA Information Act substantially improved protection for U.S. intelligence sources and methods.

The Committee also has held a number of closed hearings relating to recent espionage cases and to improvements in personnel security programs. I believe the executive branch is making substantial progress in improving these programs. Congress has helped with these improvements by providing resources.

I certainly agree with Mr. Stewart that the polygraph is an extremely useful tool in personal security screening and counterintelligence investigations. As you know, Congress approved a limited counterintelligence polygraph pilot program two years ago and reauthorized the program last year. My Omnibus Intelligence and Security Improvements Act (H.R. 1082) would allow DoD to use polygraphs without unnecessary restrictions. I have written the President's National Security Advisor, Admiral Poindexter, to urge Administration support for DoD polygraph authority without numerical limits. It should be noted that many of the intelligence agencies have used polygraphs for a long time. At NSA and CIA every potential employee is polygraphed and subject to a periodic review.

In addition, this Committee and its Senate counterpart agreed to include in the FY 1986 Intelligence Authorization Act (Public Law 99-169) provisions granting the Department of Defense, Central Intelligence Agency, and Office of Personnel Management a right of access to state and local criminal records in conducting security clearance investigations.

-2-

While three Committees (Post Office and Civil Service, Armed Services, and Intelligence) share jurisdiction in the House over personnel security matters, this Committee has taken the lead on such issues whenever we believe it appropriate and we will undoubtedly continue to do so in the future.

Your continuing support for legislation to improve national security is of great help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Stump', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Bob Stump  
Ranking Minority Member